

Docket No. CE12006W

Amendments to the Claims:

1-7 (cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) ~~In a mobile communication system, the power reduction method as claimed in claim 7,~~ In a mobile communication system, a power reduction method for coupling a base station to a mobile unit, the power reduction method comprising the steps of:

detecting consecutive frame erasures (FERs) on a link coupling the base station to the mobile unit, wherein if a consecutive frame erasure is detected, there is further included a step of incrementing a consecutive frame erasure counter;

determining whether the base station is in a soft handoff condition with the mobile unit;
and

when N consecutive frame erasures (FERs) have been detected, clamping a power of transmission on the link to a particular level; and

determining whether the consecutive frame erasure counter is equal to an allowable consecutive frame erasure (N), wherein if the consecutive frame erasure counter equals the allowable consecutive frame erasure (N), then there is further included steps of:

resetting a consecutive good frames counter;

setting a gain ratio to a clamped gain ratio; and

ignoring by the base station power control bits transmitted by the mobile unit.

9. (Original) In a mobile communication system, the power reduction method as claimed in claim 8, wherein there is further included a step of when M consecutive good frames have been detected, unclamping the power of the transmission on the link.

10. (Original) In a mobile communication system, the power reduction method as claimed in claim 9, wherein there is further included a step of determining whether the base station is in the soft handoff condition with the mobile unit.

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11. (Original) In a mobile communication system, the power reduction method as claimed in claim 10, wherein if the base station is in the soft handoff condition there is further included the step of determining whether a gain ratio of a data frame corresponds to a previous data frame.

12. (Original) In a mobile communication system, the power reduction method as claimed in claim 11, wherein if the gain ratio of the data frame corresponds to the previous data frame there is further included a step of determining whether a good data frame was received.

13. (Original) In a mobile communication system, the power reduction method as claimed in claim 12, wherein if a good frame was detected there is further included a step of counting by the base station a number of consecutive frames received.

14. (Original) In a mobile communication system, the power reduction method as claimed in claim 13, wherein there is further included a step of determining whether a number of the consecutive good frames counter is equal to an allowable consecutive good frames (M).

15. (Original) In a mobile communication system, the power reduction method as claimed in claim 14, wherein if the number of consecutive good frames does equal M there is further included the steps of:

resetting the consecutive frame erasures counter; setting the gain ratio to an unclamped gain ratio; and
responding by the base station to power control bits from the mobile unit.

16-37 (cancelled)